



*Seeing God's Vision, Hearing God's Voice,
Experiencing God's Victory and Holding
onto the Hope that God has for you*

HOW TO GET STARTED

WEEK 3: SMALL GROUP PARTICIPANT GUIDE

Luke 11:9-13

⁹ "So I say to you: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives; the one who seeks finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

¹¹ "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? ¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Welcome to Week 3 of our Where Am I Going spiritual growth campaign.

This week we are exploring **How to Get Started**.

This week during our message we are exploring how God wants you to take a **Simple but Significant Step**.

- **A Simple But Significant Step**

Today, may God give you the grace and power to take your next step of repentance, faith and to follow after God—knowing that you have the Good Father who promises to meet you and get you where He wants you to go.

Pastoral Thought

Salvation is by the grace of God alone—without the gift of God being offered to us, we would have no chance of knowing or seeing or being with God one day for all eternity. It is by grace and God's grace alone that we come to know God.

Yet the glory of God and the grace of God have been so far malnourished in our society that we live in a culture that thinks it is okay to mock God's grace. We live in a culture that tends to suggest that we owe nothing to God in response, that it is possible to accept God's grace and then live like Hell.

Paul addresses this when says, shall we go on sinning that grace may increase? By no means.

Church—it is time to recognize that true love for God brings about true transformation. If God is inside of you, then let it show. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked, a man will reap what he sows.

It is time for the Church to repent of sowing seeds of sin that lead to death. It is time to take a simple but significant step and to remember that Jesus did not just preach believe, he preached repent and believed, for the kingdom of heaven is near.

WEEK 3: MESSAGE NOTES: HOW TO GET STARTED

**How to Get Started:
Getting Free from the Seven Traps of Life
Luke 11:9-13**

God is the _____

“Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!” ~Luke 11:11-13

God wants you to run the race well and _____.

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial, because having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him”.
~James 1:12

You’re going to face _____ and obstacles and opposition on your journey.

“When tempted, no one should say, ‘God is tempting me’. For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full grown, gives birth to death. Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of all He created”. ~James 1:13-18

You have a great _____ who wants to _____ and Disqualify you from the prize.

“Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour. Resist him, standing firm in the faith”. ~1 Peter 5:8

**GOD WANTS YOU
TO RUN THE RACE
AND RECEIVE THE
PRIZE.**

“Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial, because having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him”.
~James 1:12

Seven Traps of Life and the Enemy to Steal, Kill and Destroy Your Life and Faith

Trap #1 The _____ Trap:

Says, “That’s not what you need”
Genesis 2:18

Truth: It is not good for you to be alone . You need Christ-centered community.
Hebrews 10:19-25

Trap #2 The _____ Trap:

Says, “Did God really say?”
Genesis 3:1-5

The Devil distorts God’s Word.

Truth: God did say it and He expects you to obey it, or there will be consequences.

Rely on the Word of God:
“Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God”.
~Matthew 4:4

Trap #3 The _____ Trap:

The lie that Says, “That’s not what He wants”. God doesn’t want you to be like him.
Genesis 3:4-5

Truth: God wants you to be like him.

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, He is a new creation, the old has gone; the new has come”.
~2 Corinthians 5:17

**GOD WANTS YOU TO BE LIKE HIM.
GOD HAS YOUR BEST IN MIND.**

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, He is a new creation,
the old has gone; the new has come”.
~2 Corinthians 5:17

Trap #4 The _____ Trap:

The lie that Says, “This is what I deserve” and “I don’t need God” and “God is holding you back from good things” (Genesis 3:6-7).

Truth: You have everything you need for life and godliness. 2 Peter 1:3

God wants to give you every good and perfect gift.

Rely on the Promises of God not the temptations of the world’s provisions. 1 John 4:16

Trap #5 The _____ Trap:

The Lie that Says, “This is the way you need to be to be liked, accepted and happy. Life will be so much easier, if you just...

Genesis 3:7

“Do not conform to the patterns of the world, but rather be transformed by the renewing of your mind. (Romans 12:1-2).

Truth: You cannot love both God and the world, anyone who loves the world, hates God. You cannot seek both the approval of others and the approval of God.

Trap #6 The _____ Trap

The lie that Says, “You are not worthy of love. You need to hide who you truly are. Don’t share because people don’t care (Genesis 3:7-8).

Truth: Nothing can separate you from the love of God.

Trap #7 The _____ Trap

Lie that Says, “God will not be with you. God will not be good. God will not help you. I cannot do this” (Genesis 4:10-18; Joshua 1:5-9; 1 John 4:18).

Fear diminishes our ability to _____.

The opposite of fear is living in _____ to God’s will and Word.

Truth: God is with you. even when you fail, God never will. God will help you.

Romans 8:28-39

**FEAR DIMINISHES YOUR
ABILITY TO EXPERIENCE
GOD’S PERFECT LOVE.**

**The opposite of fear is
obedience to God’s will
and God’s word.**

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Choose a few to discuss:

- 1. What stuck out to you most about this week's Sermon Message, Small Group video session or in the daily Bible readings?*
- 2. Luke 11:9-13 describes the goodness and gracious nature of God, our Heavenly Father; how have you experienced God's goodness and grace in your life, or how do you need to experience his goodness and grace today?*
- 3. Today's message talked about three Biblical metaphors for our lives: a journey, a race and a mist in the wind; how do you think you are doing in the race that you are running?*
- 4. The Bible tells us we face obstacles and opposition from the devil. Today we explored seven traps that the devil sets for us; which trap stuck out to you the most, or which trap do you struggle with the most and why?*
- 5. God provides us power through His Son to overcome sin, and the enemies and opposition we face, how are you seeing this power at work in your life?*
- 6. One of the ways that we live into the Christ-centered life is through the power of repentance and confession of sin and the forgiveness that God gives us; how is repentance and confession of sin a part of your Christian life-style?*
- 7. James 1:12 says that we need to persevere so we can receive the reward that God has for us and the ultimate reward is being in the presence of God forever; how are you allowing this reality to shape your attitudes and actions?*
- 7. What is one thing you will do this week to avoid the traps of life and seek after God?*
- 8. How can we pray for you this week?*